

a first pressure is applied to the contact surface by a fingertip and permitting movement of the contact surface below the detent position when pressure on the contact surface is greater than the first pressure and above the detent position when pressure on the contact surface is less than the first pressure;

the contact surface comprising a projection that fits into said recess when the contact surface is in the detent position, said leaf spring being urged radially outwardly by said projection when said projection is not in said recess; and

a detecting unit detecting a fingerprint on the contact surface when the contact surface is in the detent position.--

R E M A R K S

The indication that claim 25 includes patentable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. In reliance thereon, claim 25 has been replaced with new claim 26 that includes the limitations of claims 20 and 23-25. Allowance of new claim 26 is respectfully requested.

The claims were rejected under §112, first paragraph, because claim 20 refers to permitting movement of the contact surface below the detent position when pressure on the contact surface is greater than the first pressure. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed to a device that reduces the variation of pressure applied to a contact surface of a fingerprint input section (page 2, last paragraph). The pressure on the contact surface is substantially uniform (page 3, third paragraph). Figure 1 shows that the contact surface 6